

CLARK COUNTY
CLEAN WATER COMMISSION
Meeting Notes

Wednesday, July 7, 2004

6:30 – 9:00 PM

Hockinson High School Library
16819 NE 159th Street, Brush Prairie

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Present

Robbie Agard, Bill Owen, Susan Rasmussen, Don Steinke, Art Stubbs, Virginia VanBreemen

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Absent

Anne Jackson and Judy Schramm

Clark County Public Works Staff

Kelli Frost and Earl Rowell

Public

There were no members of the public in attendance

Call to Order

Introduction

The members of the Clark County Clean Water Commission and Clark County staff were introduced. The meeting was then called to order.

Agenda and material review

The material for the meeting includes:

1. 7/7/04 Agenda
2. 6/2/04 Meeting Notes
3. Water Related Events June – August
4. Calendar of Water related events June – August
 - Clean Water Commission 2003 Annual Report to the BOCC
 - Capital Improvement Activities
 - Clean Water Program Improvements update
 - Stream Health Report

06/02/04 meeting notes

The 06/02/04 Clean Water Commission meeting notes were approved as submitted.

Communications with the public and media

Mr. Rowell informed the Clean Water Commissioners that the Battleground Reflector recently wrote an article about Clark County staff spraying chemicals on weeds along the highways. This article should appear in an upcoming edition.

Mr. Steinke: “Does our (NPDES) permit require us to address pesticide reduction?”

Mr. Rowell: “The NPDES permit requires us to use “Integrated Pest Management” practices. This means using chemicals wisely (follow label directions) and use alternatives to chemical application where applicable.

Mr. Agard commented that there is a gentleman who leases goats to eat overgrown weeds and blackberries etc.

11/02/04



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Mr. Rowell stated that the oil brochure, *that will address leaking oil from automobiles and will be available for distribution at various Auto Licensing facilities in Clark County*, is nearing completion.

Mr. Rowell: "Water Resources Staff attended a workshop on how to obtain grant money, at the Vancouver Department of Ecology (DOE) Office. There will be additional workshops held in September. DOE will provide a 75 percent match; the state will provide a match of up to \$500,000 per project."

Mr. Owen asked if they accepted in-kind donations or volunteer hours in lieu of cash.

Mr. Steinke replied that DOE has 2 ceilings. One is about \$250,000 if the match is in-kind and the other is \$500,000 if it is a cash match.

Debrief: Board of County Commissioners / Clean Water Commission Luncheon

Mr. Rowell referred the Clean Water Commissioners to the handout which summarized the Board of County Commissioner/Clean Water Commission luncheon held on June 28, 2004. Some of the chief items of discussion:

1. The development of an incentive program;
2. The development of a Stormwater Infrastructure Report similar to the Stream Health Report that would be available to the public;
3. A link to the Endangered Species Act; and
4. Future Clean Water Program Capital Projects to be reviewed by the Clean Water Commission.

Mrs. Rasmussen: "Since the incentives were brought up for discussion again, do you think they want us to go back and revisit that?"

Mr. Stubbs: "Yes, they made it very clear that we were to review it annually."

Preliminary Draft 2005-06 Clean Water Program Budget

Mr. Rowell reviewed the draft 2005-06 Clean Water program budget, provided in a handout, with the Clean Water Commission.

At the request of the Clean Water Commissioners Mr. Rowell will try to provide budget information in advance to allow adequate time for review by the Clean Water Commission.

Mr. Rowell informed the Clean Water Commission that there are several interested individuals for the vacant Engineer III position which closes 7/12/04.

Mr. Steinke asked if private (stormwater) facilities are cleaned and checked on a regular basis.

Mr. Rowell replied that maintenance is up to the owners of the facilities and they are inspected by County staff.

Mr. Steinke followed by asking where the materials are discarded after they are cleaned out of the stormwater facility.

Mr. Stubbs asked if the materials are tested before being sent on to a landfill.

Mr. Rowell replied that he would follow up on those two issues.

Low Impact Development

Mr. Rowell informed the Clean Water Commissioners that there is a group called the Puget Sound Action Team which has information regarding low impact development.

11/02/04



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Mr. Agard asked if the proper approach for the Clean Water Commissioners would be to request Mr. Capell to review the report on low impact development and give us his recommendations on which activities would be feasible.

Mr. Agard: "Once we pick those and submit them, county staff will have to write new ordinances. We might not want to rush into these and instead wait until the new permit comes out since we will have to write new ordinances."

Mr. Rowell offered having a department engineer, who works with low impact development issues, review the report and provide their ideas and feedback.

Mr. Owen: "Even if we have staff provide their opinion about these practices, what are we going to do with the information, what is our next step?"

Mr. Rowell replied that the Clean Water Commissioners will need to determine what the next steps would be.

Mr. Owen suggested using grant money to start a pilot project to implement some of the low impact development projects.

Mr. Steinke read two lines from Stormwater Magazine, "In Washington there are now five jurisdictions that have optional standards for zero low impact development. The city of Olympia is the first that I know that requires low impact development standards in at least one of its watersheds."

Mr. Agard mentioned that another option would be to submit this report to the Home Builders Association and have them provide us their input.

Ms. Rasmussen agreed that the Home Builders Association should be involved in this process from the beginning.

Mr. Stubbs replied that he would contact the Home Builders Association and discuss this issue.

Other Items

Mr. Rowell provided handouts which summarized the types of calls that received, this billing cycle, regarding the Clean Water Program. *The majority of the calls appear to be regarding billing issues followed by issues concerning the calculations of impervious surface areas (for commercial properties). The clean water calls are up slightly for 2004 over 2003 which may be due to the fact that the billing cycle began 2 weeks earlier than last year.*

Adjourn

The Clean Water Commission meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

August 4th Clean Water Commission Meeting

The August 4th Clean Water Commission meeting will be held at Clark County Public Works Maintenance and Operations Center Conference Room, 4700 NE 78th Street.

*Respectively Submitted,
Kelli Frost*

